Guide Map of Delhi

1553. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Tourism Development Corporation has brought out some unique street and road guide map of Delhi on the pattern of A to Z Guide to London;

(b) if so, what is the reproduction of this map, with highlights including cost and sources of its availability in Delhi;

(c) whether this unique map has been brought out in English and Hindi languages simultaneously; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, when the Hindi edition will be brought out ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The map book contains 128 maps and 40 pages of indices and is available at all tourism information counters of the Delhi Tourism Development Corporation located at airports, Railway Stations, ISBT, Connaught Place and other units of the Corporation. It is also available at 45 India Made Foreign Liquor Vends of the DTDC.

(c) For the present, English edition of 10,000 copies costing Rs. 3.91 lakhs has been brought out.

(d) The proposal of bringing out the Hindi edition is under consideration.

Setting up of Aerodromes

1554. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI' : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the proposal to build an aerodrome in each of the District Head Quarters in the country; and

(b) if so, the detils thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Restoring of flights to Bhubaneswar from major cities

1555. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether government are contemplating to restore normalcy to all the scheduled flights to Bhubaneswar from Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Vizag, Madras, Nagpur and Hyderabad as was the situation in December, 1992; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has already restored its services between Bhubaneswar and Madras, Calcutta, Delhi, Hyderabad and Nagpur. Services from Bhubaneswar to Bombay and Vizag have not yet been restored due to operational constraints.

Functioning of Tourism Trade in India

1556. SHRI M. A. BABY :
SHRI MD. SALIM :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to look into the functioning of tourism trade in the country which received what is wanted but failed to come upto the expectations;

(b) if so, whether Government will also look into whether the trade is interested only to enjoy Government largesses in the shape of tax relief and modifications ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) In order to boost tourism to the country and increase foreign exchange earnings, a National Action Plan on Tourism was formulated and presented to the Parliament in May 1992 aiming to achieve 1% of global tourist traffic. The Government, therefore, with a view to develop tourism have been giving various incentives to the travel trade from time to time in the form of tax reliefs, interest subsidies, concessional import duty on certain capital goods etc. This has yielded the desired results and tourism industry at present is one of the largest net earners of

foreign exchange for the country. The tourism trade is highly responsive to Government policies and programmes.

Suspension of Vayudoot service to Hubli

1557. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Vayudoot which extended its air services to Hubli Airport for some time, has suspended the same for want of certain improvements at the Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government to resume air services at Hubli ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Vayudoot services to Hubli were suspended in 1989 as the airport was not considered fit for safe operations mainly because of unsatisfactory condition of runway surface and presence of one high tension line on approach line of runway.

(c) Although necessary improvements have since been made at the Airport, commercial and operational constraints do not permit resumption of Vayudoot services to Hubli at present.

India's share in the World's tourist flow

1558. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that though tourism is among the world's fastest growing industries, India's share in the world tourist flow is abnormally poor at 0.4 per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that out of 40 crore world tourists, only 16 to 17 lakhs visit India;

(c) if so, what are the factors standing in the way of achieving a quantum jump in tourists flow into India, so that it can earn the much needed foreign exchange; and

(d) what are the reasons for not giving greater attention to the promotion of tourism ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The major factors inhibiting the growth of tourist traffic to India include lower levels of awareness about the Indian tourism product in overseas markets, insufficient international air seat capacity to India, inadequate infrastructural facilities etc.

(d) Greater attention to promote tourism to India is being given from Seventh Plan period onwards.

Boosting of Tourism for earning foreign exchange

1559. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1991-92 India earned foreign exchange worth Rs. 3,300 crore from foreign tourists, which is 8 per cent of our total export earnings ;

(b) what are the reasons that India is not able to keep pace with the growth in world tourism despite the economic factor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government announced National Action Plan for Tourism in May, 1992 to boost tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings;

(d) if so, what is the progress made thereafter;

(e) whether any efforts have been made to explore fresh pastures of tourist spots; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The growth in tourist arrivals to the country is comparable with the growth in world tourist arrivals.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) The steps being taken by the Government, under the National Action Plan for tourism, to increase the inflow of foreign tourists to the country include improvement of infrastructural facilities, intensive development of specific circuits